

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions in the application:

1-7. cancelled

8. (currently amended) A water turbine for pumping ~~a medium~~ the water comprising:

a runner having ~~one or more~~ a plurality of rotor blades and a hub;

a housing having a distributor that regulates flow of the ~~medium~~ water into the runner;

a ~~draft tube~~ pipe that guides the ~~medium~~ water flowing out from the runner, ~~and the pipe~~ having an inlet diffuser; and

~~an oblong~~ displacement unit in the ~~draft tube~~ pipe, ~~and the displacement unit~~ having an upstream end in proximity to the hub, wherein the displacement unit has a variable width, the width of the displacement unit increasing in the direction of flow of the water.

9. cancelled

10. (previously presented) The turbine of claim 8, wherein between the hub and the upstream end of the displacement unit is a distance that is between 0.5mm and 50 mm.

11. (currently amended) The turbine of claim 8, wherein the displacement unit is supported by rods connected to the ~~draft tube~~ pipe.

12. (previously presented) The turbine of claim 8, wherein the displacement unit is supported on the hub of the runner.

13. (previously presented) The turbine of claim 8, wherein the displacement unit is integrally formed with the hub of the runner and rotates with the hub.

14. (currently amended) The turbine of claim 8, wherein the ~~draft tube~~pipe runs along a substantially straight line.

15. (currently amended) The turbine of claim 8, wherein the ~~draft tube~~pipe is curved.

16-18. cancelled

19. (currently amended) A method of reducing pressure fluctuations in a turbine that pumps a ~~medium~~water, the method comprising:

regulating flow of the ~~medium~~water into a runner via a distributor in a turbine housing;

guiding the ~~medium~~water flowing out from the runner via a ~~draft tube~~pipe;
and

reducing swirling of the ~~medium~~water by varying an inner cross-sectional area of the ~~draft tube~~pipe in proximity to the runner, the inner cross-sectional area of the pipe being varied by positioning an oblong displacement unit of varying width in the pipe, the width of the displacement unit increasing in the direction of flow of the water.

20 - 21. cancelled

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein between a hub of the runner and an upstream end of the displacement unit is a distance that is between 0.5mm and 50 mm.

23. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the displacement unit is supported by rods connected to the ~~draft tube~~pipe.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the displacement unit is integrally formed with the hub of the runner and rotates with the hub.

25. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the ~~draft tube~~pipe runs along a substantially straight line.

26. (currently amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the ~~draft tube~~pipe is curved.

27. cancelled